

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 1, below the title, please insert the following new paragraphs:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Applicant claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 of Japanese Application No. 11-79664 filed March 24, 1999. Applicant also claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 365 of PCT/JP00/01833 filed March 24, 2000. The International application under PCT article 21(2) was not published in English.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--

On page 1, please replace the heading that appears above the first paragraph with the following rewritten heading:

~~A2~~ <Field of the Invention> --1. Field of the Invention--

On page 1, please replace the heading between the first and second paragraphs with the following rewritten heading:

~~A3~~ <Background Art> --2. The Prior Art--

On page 3, please replace the heading that appears before the first full paragraph with the following rewritten heading:

~~A4~~ <Disclosure of the Invention> --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--

On page 6, please replace the heading between the second and third full paragraphs with the following rewritten heading:

~~<Brief Description of the Drawings>~~

A5

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--

On page 7, please replace the heading after the first full paragraph with the following rewritten heading:

~~<Best Mode for Carrying Out the Invention>~~

A6

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--